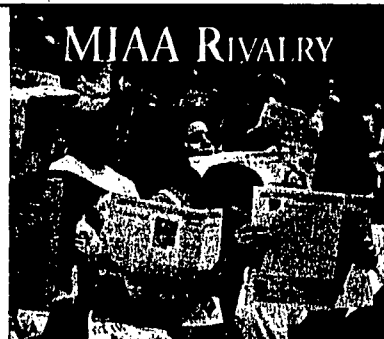


Bearcats sweep Griffons

See section B for
complete coverage



MIAA RIVALRY

Check out the results
from Wednesday's
Northwest-Missouri
Western showdown

GO TO PAGE A6



A familar face takes charge at Eugene Field

Meet the school's newest
future principal
COMMUNITY NEWS, 3A



PHOTO BY NIKI CORDER / CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Scott Rivera practices bandaging a wound on Matt Ahal during Safe Ride Home training. The program is offered to students who desire to have another individual drive them home.

Northwest students get a 'Safe Ride Home'

*Transportation service
to aid students in
getting home safely*

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

With one van, four empty seats and three students working two nights a week, Northwest's Safe Ride Home Program will kick off its service to students Friday.

A safe ride home
"It's a safe ride home and not a safe ride to another establishment or party," said Anita Wilson, marketing and promotions member of the Safe Ride Home Program.

The program begins at 9 p.m. on Friday and ends at 3 a.m. These times will stay the same for every Friday and Saturday night for the next six weeks.

The program is part of an overall educational and safety promotion initiative of Northwest for situations where alcohol is involved and for situations that do not involve drinking. Any student can use the program.

When a student calls 562-1245, the call reaches a student dispatcher who then calls the program's student drivers on a cell phone.

When students call, the program's phone number, the student dispatcher will take down their locations. Safe Ride Home will provide locations within Maryville to their homes.

(Please see "Transportation" page A5)

Student Senate to review activities fee proposal

*Student Senate sends
proposal back to
committee to address
student concerns*

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

Student Senate took a 180-degree turn Tuesday by voting to re-evaluate its Student Activities Fee proposal.

With 19 Student Senators voting yes and four voting no, Northwest's student government will go back to the Student Activities Fee committee to make changes on either the proposal or how to better publicize the fee.

Student Senator Kara Ferguson said she thinks Student Senate made a wise decision to reevaluate its activity fee proposal because students did not have the information they needed.

"Students feel like they weren't informed enough and they feel like there was a massive amount of confusion," Ferguson said.

She thought a lot of students were

being influenced by their friends' opinion, and they did not vote by what they felt.

However, Student Senator Krystle McCarthy said she voted against the motion made to re-evaluate the proposal.

"I did vote no because I think that we should stick to the numbers," McCarthy said. "But I can see why a lot of people would want to re-evaluate it."

The majority vote, she thought, was enough to move the proposal forward to the President's Cabinet for them to vote on it.

Overall, McCarthy said she thinks re-evaluating the proposal and the way it was publicized will end up helping the activities fee proposal.

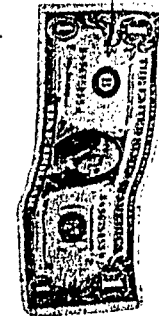
Now she will talk with other members of Senate to see what they will come up with in its re-evaluation of the proposal.

"So that we can try and figure out something that will work best for everyone," McCarthy said.

She will also see why people voted no, and if they did, whether it was because of the money or if they were against the fee itself.

Ferguson said she hopes to see an

(Please see "Student Senate" page A5)



Northwest forum discusses future of 'biopharming'

*'Pharming' forum
speaks about benefits
of biotechnology to the
Maryville community*

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Regional economists and farmers alike now spell "farming" a bit differently.

And as a result of the biotechnology being explored in pharmaceuticals and crops, "pharming" has taken Northwest Missouri by storm.

Friday's pharming forum was the second time in as many weeks University of Missouri system representatives were present on-campus.

"A lot of the research is done at the land-grant colleges like (the University of Missouri system),"

Board of Regent Doug Sutton. "The technology is there and we need to somehow be able to transport it; so the merger will help that."

Sutton, along with Northwest alumnus Melvin Booth, pharmacist Bill Horan and economist Mark Drabenstott were all present to discuss the possibility of bringing pharming facilities to Northwest.

"I talked (to students) about the 20th century being really the period of chemistry and the 21st century really being about biology and biotechnology, and I put my career behind that," said Booth, retired CEO of MedImmune and Northwest alumnus responsible for the namesake of the Melvin and Valorie Booth College of Business and Professional Studies.

Horan, who has spent eight years

in the pharming business in Northwest Iowa, also spoke Friday about his experiences.

"Wayne Gretzky once said in an interview, 'A good hockey player always focuses on the puck, but I skate to where the puck is going to be,'" Horan said.

"We're going to be where the puck is going to be in five years. I want to be where the biotech puck is going to be."

Horan produces cystic fibrosis from the corn he produces on his 4,000-acre farm.

"(Converting vegetables into medicine) is what biology is all about," Horan said. "Biology solves problems for very real people."

Drabenstott, vice president and director for the Center for the Study of Rural America, said the opportunity for 'pharming in

Northwest Missouri is real.

"We have the opportunity to create high-skilled, high-wage jobs where they are so desperately needed," Drabenstott said during Friday's forum. "If you can muster (10,000 acres), you can think about creating a situation where you have an \$80-100 million processing facility. That is a whole new ball game when we think about the economy of Northwest Missouri."

Dean of Agriculture Arley Larson also believes there an opportunity exists for the community to benefit from pharming.

"Theoretically, it will bring more dollars (to the region) and if we created a plant, more jobs would be created," Larson said. "If you degree people outside the region, it will create more restaurants and more auto repair shops in the region."

Even though the process of converting vegetables into drugs

(Please see "Pharming" page A5)



Spoken-word artist serves as inspiration in a perilous society

By ASHLEY YATES
GUEST COLUMNIST

For Black Achievement Month, a spoken-word artist brought his message of positiveness, responsibility and African American pride to Northwest.

Being a poet myself, I jumped at the opportunity to speak with Quincy Hull. After watching Hull and his partner Charles White do a two-hour set, I was extremely excited to sit down and get their views on everything.

Here were brothers that were speaking on topics that pertained to me such as police brutality, fatherless children and the perils of being an African American in today's society. They spoke from the heart and weren't afraid to tell things as they are. Hull informed me that he has even received death threats because he spoke against unfair practices. How many people today are willing to put their life in danger to stand up for what's right? Hull is that person, a modern-day revolutionary.

On his CD "Anarchism," Quincy said that he "decided to teach by the pen." He wants to teach the masses using his poetry, so when he says "brothers, teach your boys to be men" in his poems, he means it. In fact, Hull has adopted a 13-year-old boy who is an extremely prominent figure in his life.

Quincy says, "you must be a good student to be a good teacher." I plan on studying under poets such as Hull so that one day I too may make a career out of poetry. I have been confronted with controversy already and I am just starting. White encouraged me and said "if you have a real purpose, there's no way you can be blocked."

Still curious to see what obstacles he faced, I asked Hull about his trials breaking into the poetry circuit. What I found surprised me. He informed me that the people who he thought to be closest to him were the ones who got in his way the most. I thought I was the only one hearing cries of "nobody reads poetry" and "you can't make a living being a poet." Fortunately, Hull is proving these people wrong. He is definitely an inspiration to me and other young poets because he is paving his own way. He is self-published and arranges his own tours, and is truly living his dream and blazing a path for those who want to do the same.

It's hard being a poet in today's world when virtually no one reads poetry, but if Hull and I have our way, everyone will soon be listening to spoken-word artists that are telling the truth and baring their souls.

We are real people trying to promote real change and if it involves being an outcast, bombarded with threats or speaking until your vocal chords are sore, we will do it. In the words of Amiri Baraka, "There's a difference between a poet and someone who writes poetry. A poet lives his words, anyone can write poetry." I am a poet.



ASHLEY YATES

Leap year baby finally turns five

By STEPHANIE SUCKOW
MANAGING EDITOR

Learning how to jump rope and tie shoes is normally the extent of a 4-year-old's learning ability. That is, unless they were born on Feb. 29.

Emily Beard is one of these exceptions. She is technically a 4-year-old, but she's a freshman at Northwest with an ability to learn far beyond jump rope.

"My 16th birthday was the first time I really celebrated my birthday on the 29th," Beard said. "I turned 4, so my parents threw me a party like it was for a real 4-year-old with little kid gifts and decorations."

Throughout her childhood Beard would celebrate with her family and friends on Feb. 28. But every year her parents would explain to her that her real birthday was on a day that only occurred once every four years.

"I, of course, didn't understand the whole concept until I was older," Beard said.

Beard said her family would make fun of her when she was little by saying, "Sorry, you don't get a birthday this year."

But the teasing didn't stop there; it followed her

into college.

"Now, my friends will give me a hard time," Beard said. "They'll say 'she can't go to the clubs, she's only 4.'"

Although her birthday technically only comes once every four years, the courts recognize Feb. 28th as Beard's legal birthday.

"I especially looked into that since I'm turning 21 next year," she said.

Beard joins only 200,000 other Americans who have a leap year birthday.

The concept of a day being added to February was necessary so that the calendar is in alignment with Earth's motion around the sun.

It takes Earth 365.24219 days to orbit the sun and move through the seasons. According to www.timeanddate.com, if the calendar were based simply on a calendar of 365 days, after 100 years this calendar would be more than 24 days ahead of the seasons.

Therefore, the day was added to align the calendar with the seasons and make the difference as small as possible.

Before Julius Caesar made every fourth year a leap year in 45 BC, a person could have a birthday in two or three different seasons.



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER
Four-year-old Emily Beard plays with a doll house just days before her fifth birthday. Beard was born on leap year day, giving her only four opportunities to celebrate on the day she was born. "It's more exciting when I actually do have a birthday," Beard said. "We usually go all out."

Entrepreneur offers advice on business practices

By BURNEA COTHRINE
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Black Achievement Month's guest speakers will end with a bang tonight thanks to a man known for his accomplishments as a black entrepreneur.

Graduating with no more than a high school diploma, speaker Columbus Pollar, who serves as a national sales director for Primerica Financial Services, will speak on his 20 principles to success.

"I will concentrate on what it takes to win in life and in business," Pollar said.

In 1987 Pollar moved from Virginia to St. Louis, Mo., where it took him a mere four years to establish himself in business and begin earning a six-figure salary.

"One of the first steps to being a successful entrepreneur is to first love what you do and that you enjoy what you are doing," Pollar said.

Primerica is a member of Citigroup, the largest financial corporation in the world that has more than \$3 trillion in assets. Pollar manages seven Primerica offices; four in St. Louis, two in Missis-

sippi and one in Chicago.

"We concentrate on two things," Pollar said. "The first thing that we teach is how to market and use financial products. Secondly, we teach small businesses how they can become more financially stable."

According to Pollar, his company sells products such as mutual funds, life insurance and even a plan that allows individuals to invest in lawyers for future violations of the law called Pre-Paid Legal.

"My job within my company doesn't require me to sell as much," Pollar said. "What I basically do is teach others how to be successful in small business."

Pollar offers more advice concerning success in being an entrepreneur by naming elements that pertain to both life and business.

"One thing you must have is your priorities straight," Pollar said. "Priorities such as God, family and business. And do your business with every fiber within your body."

Pollar is currently a member of Primerica's Leadership Council and earns an annual income of \$300,000.

"One thing you must have is your priorities straight. Priorities such as God, family and business. And do your business with every fiber within your body."

COLUMBUS POLLAR
ON SUCCEEDING IN BUSINESS



COLUMBUS POLLAR

University Events

Thurs. 26	■ Columbus Pollar, black entrepreneur, Union Ballroom, 7 p.m.
Fri. 27	■ First block ends
Sat. 28	■ Candlelight vigil-music from ABC Gospel Choir, Union Living Room
Sun. 29	■ Sunday Night Church, Union Ballroom, 9 p.m. ■ Leap Year day
Mon. 1	■ Second block begins
Tues. 2	■ Legislative Reception, Jefferson City
Wed. 3	■ "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," 7:30 p.m., MLA

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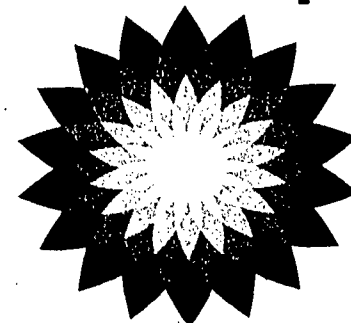
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From students to soldiers...

Teens to embark on a new journey

By JESSICA SWARTZ
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

While most high school students are prepping for college or planning their careers, two local teenagers—and—friends prepare for their entrance into America's fighting forces.

Tyler John Vergith and Clay Allen Bevering, students at Mound City High School, will spend nine weeks this summer in Basic Training for their role in the Army National Guard.

A family tie prompted the decision for both friends. Bevering's father was a soldier in the Army. "I've always tried to excel for him," Bevering said. "I want to excel in the National Guard. I like helping people."

Vergith's older brother, Scott, recently returned from four years of service as a Marine.

"I want to follow in Scott's footsteps, but I also want to experience something new," Vergith said.

Teresa Jordan, Vergith's mother, said her father was also a member of the Army National Guard.

"I'm really proud of him," said Jordan of the youngest of her four sons. "It's not as hard this time as it was when Scott joined. Especially since it's just one weekend out of the month

Faces in the Crowd
A series profiling outstanding citizens of Nodaway County



PHOTO BY NIKI CORDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Clay Bevering and Tyler Vergith enjoy throwing a football around, watching a basketball game or just hanging out. Bevering and Vergith recently made the decision to join the Army National Guard.

and two (weeks) out of the year and he gets to come home."

As the students are both juniors, their intensive training will not begin until they graduate. Advanced Individual Training will not occur until the summer of 2005.

"I'm excited," said Vergith. "I want to make something of myself."

Although their interests have changed

throughout the years, their friendship remains strong.

According to both students, they're looking forward to entering the Guard. Having a friend along, they said, is an added incentive.

"I think we won't get homesick because you'll have a friend with you," said Bevering. "I think it's a good idea."

Council to consider ordinance change

By AARON BAILEY
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

In coming weeks the Maryville City Council will review an existing ordinance which restricts the materials that can be used for constructing roads to concrete.

After a recommendation from the planning and zoning committee, the council asked Public Works to research the ordinance.

During the meeting, City Manager Matt Chesnut said the current ordinance "hampers development" and that lifting the restrictions could entice an asphalt manufacturer to the area. Currently, the closest asphalt manufacturer is Herzog in St. Joseph.

"In the years past, (cost) was 10 to 15 percent higher for concrete due to the location of the nearest asphalt manufacturer," Assistant City Manager Matt Unrein said. "It might be the right thing to spur economic development—it certainly couldn't hurt."

Unrein also said that revising the ordinance may not have an effect on the number of homes built, but it may bring jobs to the area.

"What it might do is (a company) like Herzog might bring people to work in Maryville and that creates jobs," Unrein said. The council will consider the revision at a future meeting.

Community events

Thurs. 26	■ Sen. Kit Bond's Listening Post, 11 a.m., 114 West Third Street
Fri. 27	■ PACE, 10 a.m., Maryville Community Center
Sat. 28	■ Basketball Shoot-out, 2 p.m., Maryville Community Center
Sun. 29	■ Leap Year Day
Mon. 1	■ Mother Bonnie's Sermon Day, Sacred Hills Church
Tues. 2	■ Peace Corps Day
Wed. 3	■ Lisa's Paper Folding Club, 2-4 p.m., First Christian Church

If you would like to have your event published, please call 562-1224 or e-mail ab Bailey@missourianonline.com

Defendants in alleged Wal-Mart theft ring face judge

By AARON BAILEY
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

The six defendants charged in an alleged Wal-Mart theft ring appeared in Nodaway County Circuit Court on Tuesday.

Judge Glen Dietrich heard the defendants and issued continuances to each of the accused.

Brandi Harrington, 21, a former Wal-Mart employee, is charged with three counts of felony stealing by deceit. Harrington appealed her denial to be represented by a public defender. Dietrich denied Harrington's request on the grounds that she posted a \$40,000 bond. Dietrich suggested she have legal representation and was issued a continuance to 9 a.m. March 23.

Northwest student Andrea Hansen, 21, also is charged with three counts of felony stealing by deceit and was the only defendant represented by legal counsel. Dietrich issued a continuance to 2:30 p.m. March 10.

Missouri Western State College student and

former Wal-Mart employee Haywood Jackson, 19, is charged with two counts of felony stealing by deceit. Jackson was issued a continuance to 9 a.m. March 2.

Former Wal-Mart employee Charles Dryer, 20, is charged with one count of felony stealing by deceit. Dryer was advised to seek legal representation and was issued a continuance to 9 a.m. March 23.

Northwest student and former Wal-Mart employee Tamanda Jenkins, charged with one count of felony stealing by deceit, was originally denied a public defender on the grounds she posted a \$10,000 bond. But after consideration, Dietrich ordered a public defender to represent Jenkins and issued a continuance to 9 a.m. March 23.

Northwest student and former Wal-Mart employee Aaron Scroggins, charged with one count of misdemeanor stealing by deceit, was also issued a continuance to 9 a.m. March 23.

According to Maryville Public Safety Director Keith Wood, the investigation has been concluded unless new information rises.



PHOTO BY NIKI CORDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Steve Klotz is currently serving in his third year as vice principal of Eugene Field Elementary. In July he will take over for David Weichinger as the new principal.

Familiar face to become next principal

By JARED HOFFMANN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

A familiar face will soon be taking a new position at Eugene Field Elementary School.

Current Vice Principal Steve Klotz will become the school's new principal effective July 1. Klotz will be taking the place of Principal David Weichinger, who will be retiring at the conclusion of the school year.

Klotz, 33, has been the school's assistant principal for the past three years and looks forward to furthering his career in the Maryville R-II School District.

"It's a great community to work in," Klotz said. "We have a great facility, great staff and great kids to work for."

Klotz hails from Fort Wayne, Ind., but has spent most of his life in Maryville. He graduated from Northwest in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in elementary and middle school education and later received a master's in elementary and middle school administration.

He was also a social studies teacher at Maryville Middle School for one year, as well as a 4th grade teacher at North Andrew R-VI School District for four years. Klotz said his experience in the education department allows him to approach his new position with confidence.

"I'm going in with my eyes wide open," Klotz said. "It will be a new set of responsibilities, but I've been aware of what a school administrator's job is all my life. My father was a superintendent."

Superintendent Jay Reese said that the transition of Klotz as the new principal will be a smooth one.

"He is very organized and very goal-oriented," Reese said. "He has the ability to work with students as well as parents and has a way of bringing people together for a common good."

Although Klotz will take on new responsibilities with his position, he said most of his efforts will go to completing tasks already set in motion.

"I'm looking forward to continuing the projects we've been working on," Klotz said. "We are a school that achieves very well and we'll keep making steady improvement to be the best school we can be."

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Our View

Honor the history

An apathetic response to Northwest's efforts to honor Black Achievement Month proves disappointing

"If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world and it stands in danger of being exterminated." —Carter G. Woodson

Known as the father of Black History Month, Carter G. Woodson developed Negro History Week in 1926 to establish the presence of black people in American history.

He designated it as the second week of February because it contained the birth dates of two prominent figures in history, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. He began to create little kits with pictures and stories about prominent black people and distributed them to children. Woodson was dedicated to educating everyone about the impact of the black culture.

Today, people around the world schedule lectures and seminars to educate the uninformed about black culture during what is now known as Black Achievement Month.

Certainly not an exception, Northwest has also taken initiative and scheduled events and speakers to educate students, faculty and staff on various issues of race relations.

Although many events are scheduled, few are in attendance at functions supporting Black Achievement Month at Northwest. The faces of the crowd consist mainly of black students, which defeats the initial purpose of Black History Month. The purpose is to inform everyone, not just black students, about a culture rarely recognized in America's history books.

Faculty, staff and students buy tickets for their families to attend the Encore series and other non-multicultural functions. Meanwhile, black history events are largely ignored. The Northwest Family should attend these multicultural events solely out of the need to acknowledge cultures outside of their own and learn how the contributions of other cultures have helped in shaping modern American society.

While tickets for the comedian Dave Attell sell out and students fill every seat of the Mary Linn auditorium, Daryl Davis's discussion of the Ku Klux Klan barely filled 100 seats out of the 400 available in the Charles Johnson Theatre. The Northwest community was more concerned with the latest jokes rather than confront issues of racism that still exist today.

The Black Film Festival that presented movies such as "Amistad" and "Radio" also received poor attendance. The purpose of the film festival was to show the true-life stories of black people that persevered in trying environments. It's doubtful that the majority of the Northwest community had viewed these films before.

The fact that these events are poorly attended is disturbing, it seems as though Northwest is ignoring the importance of Black Achievement Month.

Because black people are acknowledged mainly for their efforts in ending slavery and segregation, Black Achievement Month is meant to inform others about prominent black people other than Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.

Woodson believed that "if a race has no history, then it is in danger of being exterminated."

Black history is in danger of being forgotten by this University because it is rarely acknowledged. It is necessary for Northwest to take black history into account so that it may never be forgotten.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

With regards to Aaron Bailey's Feb. 19 column entitled "Banning gay marriages would be un-American," where do you and your liberal friends get off by saying that anyone, be it President Bush or anyone opposed to gay marriage, is a bigot?

I am a straight white male and have been approached by gay dudes and it makes me very uncomfortable.

Now you left-wingers are always yelling about your rights and it's sickening. If gays and lesbians, blacks and other minorities and even women are unhappy about being denied their so-called "rights," let them go to Iran, Iraq or Afghanistan or wherever "rights" are basically nonexistent for anyone. Then see how loud and long they yell.

I won't go into the usual homophobic hysteria (which you probably think I am) that other conservatives usually mention.

But before you call someone closed-minded or bigoted, remember that liberals are usually the most closed-minded, bigoted and judgmental people there are, which makes them hypocrites, huh?

JOHN W. BEGGS
MARYVILLE



Software plug-ins and 'The Passion of Christ'

With the escalating buzz and theological controversy surrounding the Ash Wednesday opening of Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ," I recently logged on to the film's official Web site to get the straight story from the filmmaker himself.

And lo and behold, my access to www.thepassionofthechrist.com was denied.

Baffled as to why I was unable to enter the site, I mulled over what I considered the most logical explanations for my barred access.

Did the flinch-inducing violent content of "The Passion" extend to the film's Web site, requiring users to verify their age with some sort of password?

Nope. Is it because, much like the film itself, the Web site is kept so tightly under wraps that only the most devout of Christians (who will, no doubt, praise the film for its supposed accuracy) are allowed to log on? Negative, Holy Ghost Rider.

The divine truth was finally revealed to me in the Book of Pop-Up Window, in which the following e-scripture was displayed:

You do not appear to have a recent enough version of the Macromedia Flash Plugin needed to view this site. You can download the latest plugin by clicking here.

Once you have installed the software, please revisit the site.

And the people said, 'Amen.'

So that's how it was. In order to enter the official Web site of "The Passion," a film that chronicles the final 12 hours of the man who endured merciless torture before dying for the sins of Christians throughout

My View

ABBY SIMONS
EDITOR IN CHIEF



the world, I was requested to download Macromedia Flash MX 2004 for the low, low price of \$499.95.

Perhaps I'm overanalytical, but the strange contradiction between religion and um, flashiness, only added to my unease about the true motivations behind "The Passion." While Gibson's film is already lauded by a number of critics—including Roger Ebert, a figure of worship in his own right through the eyes of frequent moviegoers—as an accurate, albeit disturbingly violent tribute to Biblical history, others beg to differ.

New York Times reviewer A.O. Scott described "The Passion" as "so relentlessly focused on the savagery of Jesus' final hours that this film seems to arise less from love than from wrath, and to succeed more in assaulting the spirit than in uplifting it."

And, while I have yet to see "The Passion" as this goes to press, my current sentiments reflect those of Scott's, based not so much on the snippets of the film that I have seen, but perhaps instead on Gibson's interpretation of the story of the crucifixion.

As an ultraconservative Roman Catholic, Gibson rejects most of the reforms made by the Second Vatican Council, which, among other things, largely did away with Latin-spoken Mass, lowered the divide between priests and lay worshippers, and emphasized religious freedom for all and encouraged openness to other faiths.

And despite his painstaking attention to detail and devotion to accuracy, Gibson's faith, as would any, has had the potential to bear an impact on his interpretation of the gospels during creation of the film. Such is the sentiment from much of the Jewish community, which alleges hints of anti-Semitism within "The Passion."

Yet, on the other side of the coin, such a faith of the "old school" variety squarely contradicts with the Hollywood hype the film has promoted. Regardless of Gibson's motivations in creating "The Passion," he certainly hasn't shied away from any such attention when it comes to marketing what will, no doubt, be a blockbuster, despite having no major production label.

And in Gibson's process of defending "The Passion" with such devotion and newly-public religious fervor, the true meaning of hope in a story integral to the history of so many Christians is likely lost in the zeal and remnants of rage with which he portrays and promotes the film.

Then again, it's all speculation from your average layperson that has neglected to attend church for far too many Sundays.

But in the meantime, I can only wait for Flash MX 2004 to launch, while hoping—and praying, perhaps—that "The Passion" proves me wrong.

Youngster proves he's wise beyond his years

Some things get old fast—but not me.

I hear constant complaints and whining from freshmen about "not being able to get in the bars" and "not being treated as an adult." Well guess what, folks—I can't even walk into Movie Magic and set up an account unless Mommy's there to hold my hand, let alone buy cigarettes, porn or even vote.

That's right, I'm merely 17 years old.

After graduating from Lincoln Northeast High School in three years, I chose to start my college experience as a youngun'. To be honest, I really haven't experienced as many problems as I thought I might. Coming here was liberating and I've enjoyed every moment of it. That is, until this semester. *Dun, dun, dun...*

As the word slowly made its way around the newsroom, and by that I mean it spread like wildfire, the array of crap I've received has only gained momentum. I could honestly bet you I hear at least one age joke an hour—if not more. And being the newsroom "baby" doesn't have many perks.

My View

RILEY HUSKEY
COPY EDITOR



But this Doogie Howser isn't packing his bag anytime soon.

Naturally when I make any mistakes or ask "unnecessary" questions, I get ridiculed because of my age. Most of the comments are light-hearted, of course, but others, eh, not so much.

Most people find it odd and even question my position here at *The Missourian*; all I've got to say to that is "deal with it." I'm making my way up the ladder regardless of my age or class standing. I do the best I can with the knowledge of journalism I've received

and gained at the high school and college level. I love every aspect of journalism—the stress, the hard work, the thrill—and I wouldn't trade it for anything. Although I have a long road ahead me in journalism and English education, I hope to work my way up and gain as much knowledge as I can along the way.

The reason for this column is not to merely fill space on the page, but to get a last word in on my age before I turn 18 this spring break. Yes, I may get a tattoo, buy lots of cigarettes and porn and even register to vote, but I will continue to be the newsroom "baby" throughout the year.

A special note to the office of Residential Life: The parent signature required for residents under 18 years of age on the bottom of my 2004-2005 housing contract was not filled in. Please do not hunt me down or bother me with phone calls, simply call Mommy and she'll set you straight. However, a note of warning for you—don't cop a tone with her—she's in the Army National Guard.

YOUR VIEW

Did you vote for the proposed Student Activities Fee? Why or why not?



"No, I didn't even know about it."

Nathan Parker
Undecided



"Yes, because I like to have a say in what's going on in the University."

Kelli Jennings
Business Management/Marketing



"No, because I didn't know about it."

Nizar Azarkane
International Business



"Yes I did, because I am on Student Senate and I think it'll bring a lot of big names and a positive influence on our campus."

Krystle McCarthy
Financial Services



"No, I had no idea about it."

Corey Paetznick
Undecided



"Yes, because a lot of my friends and I like to go to some of those activities. We think more will be fun to go to."

Bryan Masters
Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

The Northwest Missourian is an independent learning environment providing the best source of information and advertising for our community.

Questions? Comments about *The Northwest Missourian*? Story idea? We would like to hear from you. If you do not find the person you need on the right, please contact Abby Simons at 660-562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at northwesternmissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 6, Maryville, MO 64468.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear your views on this issue and others. Call *The Missourian* Back Talk line at 562-1980. E-mail your letter to the editor to northwesternmissourian@hotmail.com or send it by mail to: *The Northwest Missourian*, Wells Hall 6, 800 University Drive, Maryville, MO 64468. Letters are limited to 250 words due to space constraints. All letters must be signed; students should include their major. *The Missourian* reserves the right to edit all letters.

CONTINUED from 1A

Transportation service to aid students in getting home

Students must show one form of identification whether it's their driver's license or Bearcat card. The assistant will be in charge of writing students' names down for identification purposes.

"The names of students who use the service are kept confidential," said Joe Wendt, GAMMA co-director. "We won't keep track of how many times a particular student used the service."

The liability of the program begins when students enter the car and the liability ends when the student leaves the vehicle.

The program will not transport significantly inebriated individuals. Instead, the driver and assistant may provide help in obtaining alternate transportation through Maryville's cab service or a medical vehicle.

Wendt said the University wants to stress to students that the program is not a shuttle service but a safe ride home.

"A safer alternative to risking your life by driving yourself home drunk," Wendt said.

Both Wilson and Wendt said the University encourages students to take advantage of the free service.

"Students really need to take advantage of the program because it is a pilot program," Wendt said. "It needs to be used or it will be shut down."

Wilson said the program is a great asset to the University and students.

"I think it is important for students to know that the University cares about them

and students' well-being, and it is willing to help them," Wilson said.

The driver

Whether it was the pay or the reason to keep students safe, 20 students applied to drive.

Safe Ride Home driver Maria Meinen said she applied for the position because it's different from most campus jobs.

"It wasn't a desk job, it was not a typical job on campus and it was something different," Meinen said. "Besides, you're helping others and keeping others safe on your campus at the same time."

Campus Safety hired six students, three females and three males. Drivers will receive four hours of training to complete the requirements for their employment and be covered by the program's insurance.

Campus Safety will train drivers on how to respond to a crisis situation and deal with confrontation.

Three students will work each night's shift with one student as phone dispatcher and two drivers, one female and one male.

"Students will be responsible for the day-to-day operations, making sure everything goes smoothly and responding to calls," Campus Safety Director Clarence Green said.

Campus Safety

Campus Safety's involvement in the program extends to managing and assisting the student drivers.

"We will manage it and make sure they have the right supplies and the training," Green said. "We will be working with stu-

dents to make sure the program is running right."

The program will cost the University \$3,000 as a pilot program. A surplus University van was donated to the program. Cell phones were donated by Northwest Cellular. The University will pay for the cost of uniforms, gas and student drivers.

Green said he thinks the University is heading into a new area with the Safe Ride Home Program.

"It's a good area to head into," Green said. "I think it's something that students have been asking for, for a long time."

Administrators' take

Many faculty and administrators played their role in helping facilitate the program's beginning stages.

Kent Porterfield, vice president of Student Affairs shared in the process of making the program a reality.

"That's what the leader's role is, to make sure that the resources that you need to run the program get put in place and that any obstacles out there get removed," Porterfield said. "So that is what I tried to do."

Students and faculty from Student Affairs, Campus Safety and organizations such as Greek Life's GAMMA, Peer Education and Student Senate worked to research the proposal. They used the University of Missouri at Columbia's STRIPES program as well as the University of Kansas and Texas A&M's to model Northwest's initiative.

"I think the fact that we are at the pi-

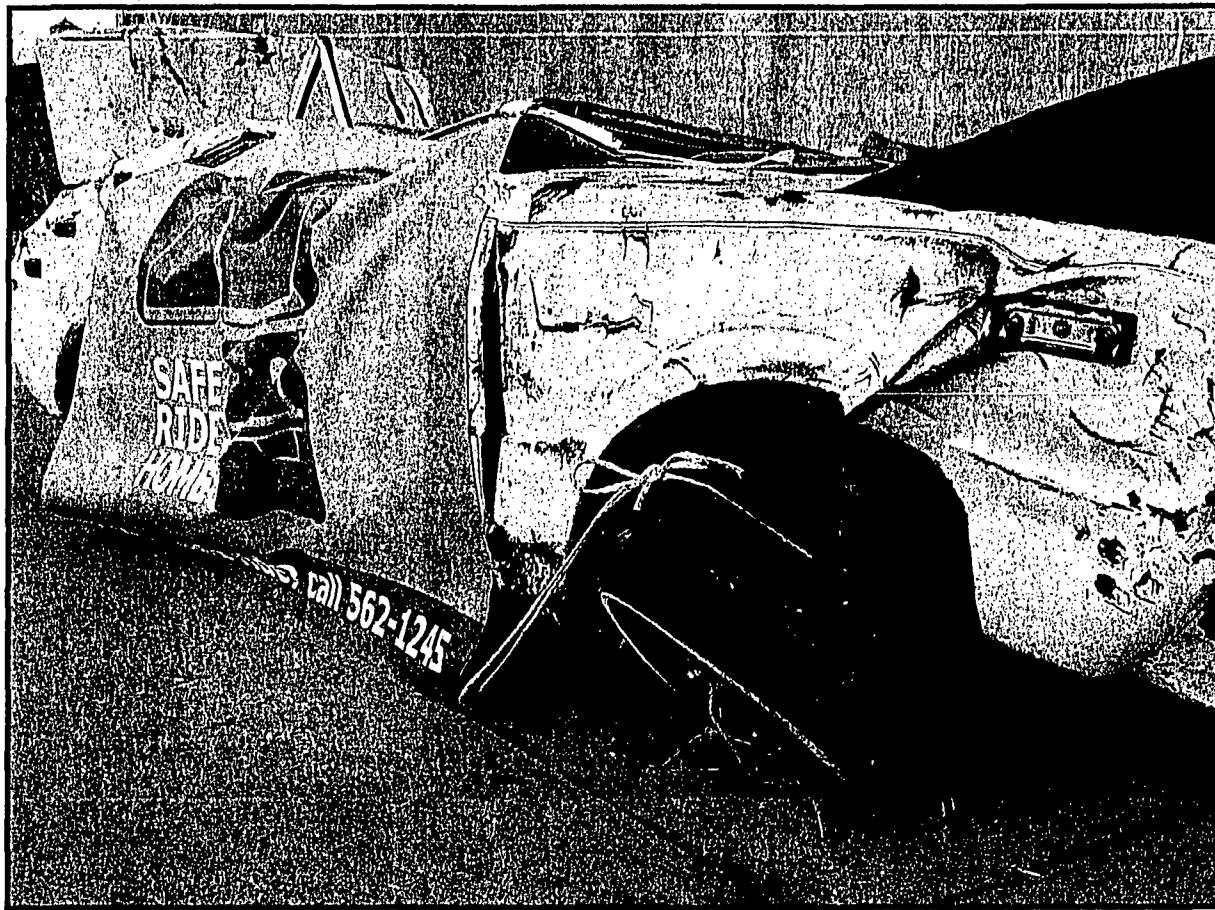


PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Campus Safety is sponsoring a new program to provide rides to any student. Cars that were totaled in drunk driving accidents were placed around the Northwest campus this week to promote the pilot project.

lot stage is a result of a bunch of hard-working people, planning team and a very dedicated group of students," Porterfield said.

The President's Cabinet passed the proposal, giving their support for the spirit of the program.

"They support it because they know that we are not trying to enable behavior and we're not trying to run a shuttle that takes people from party to party or from bar to bar," Porterfield said.

At the end of the trimester, a collection of data will be put into a report to

submit to the committee that developed the entire program.

"The success the program will depend on the numbers of people we are serving and if we can run the service safely without incidents and problems," Porterfield said.

Program protects children

By SEAN COMER
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

A regional coalition wants those best-equipped to keep the children of Northwest Missouri safe to make one simple promise: watch out for each other.

The Northwest Missouri Coalition for Asset Building started SafeHomes in 2001 as a way of helping parents work together to keep children safe. Schools will send home pledge forms for students to sign with students' report cards. By signing, parents make a promise to provide a safe environment for their children and those who visit their home by not allowing youths to consume alcohol in the home, keeping potentially hazardous items safely stored and supervising all visiting children.

"I compile a directory that has the kid's name and the school's name," said Katie Godsey, community development director for the Northwest Missouri Council of Governments. "Last year we had more than 180 families sign in just in Nodaway County."

The directory helps parents by ensuring them that when their children visit a friend, their children are supervised in a safe, secure environment.

"If Suzy wants to visit Bobby and the parents are not familiar, it's a good way for Suzy's parents to see that Bobby's parents will provide a safe home while Suzy is visiting," Godsey said. "I was at a training and one lady said it was nice to see that she and her neighbors shared the same morals and values."

In addition to Nodaway County, SafeHomes has expanded in the last year to include Holt, Gentry, Worth and Atchison counties, from which Godsey expects further success for the program.

SafeHomes parent Margaret Pierson sees the program as a means for parents to connect with other parents.

"I think SafeHomes is a great program because it makes it easier for me as a parent to start a dialogue with other SafeHomes parents about supervision and activities in the friend's home that children might go to," Pierson said.

Sifting for savings



PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northwest students Amy Teutsch and Tiffany Ostroski sift through discounted Abercrombie and Fitch jeans at the Banana Boat Clothing sale put on by Sigma Sigma Sigma. Twenty percent of the proceeds from the event will benefit children who need play therapy.

CONTINUED from 1A

Funding withholding affects schools

"We need to change the way the formula works and try to get the funding to where it's distributed more evenly."

While Haywood agrees the funding formula may need tweaking, she said something needs to be done now to ease the financial stress of Missouri's schools.

"The recommendation that (Holden) made as far as the general revenue for education and the foundation money, was all done well," Haywood said. "But everything (Holden) recommended was held up by the Republicans."

When asked what she would tell teachers who continually have to spend their own money to enhance their classrooms, Haywood had a quick response.

"I would say to them to go to the polls and change your vote," she said. "If you have voted to put Republicans in office, you have made a decision. The shortcomings for education should not come on the backs of these poor kids."

While the legislature continues to battle, schoolteachers are left to wonder when it will all end.

"Budget cuts really do hurt the schools and the programs, and I know a lot of schools are suffering because of it," Scott-Pillen said. "I have, really, strong feelings that the governor needs to release that money. It's really hurting, and the people it hurts the most in the long run are our children."

Samh Svedberg contributed to this report.

CONTINUED from 1A

Student Senate sends proposal back to committee to address student concerns

option for students in the price of the fee whether it's \$25 or \$50 per trimester. She would also like to see more publicity of the fee.

"That it's not just big name music we are bringing in, it's other things like comedians," Ferguson said.

McCarthy is certain senators will go to the students and try and get their input on it.

Ferguson suggests students ask questions now and to voice their opinion by going on to Student Senate's Web site and to talk to senators.

"They should find out as much information as they can," Ferguson said. "Their vote is going to make a difference on this proposal."

She expects Student Senate will take a formal stance on the activities fee proposal, depending on the re-vote. In the next two weeks, both the Student Ac-

tivities Fee committee and Student Senators will regroup to discuss possible changes in either the proposal or ways to better inform students about the fee.

"We kind of have to wait for the focus group to decide what they would like to do with that," McCarthy said.

CONTINUED from 1A

Pharming forum speaks about benefits

has been discovered in other parts of the Midwest, associate professor in agriculture Tom Zweifel said Maryville is the ideal place to continue biopharming.

"I think we have some distinct advantages," Zweifel said. "We have all the things you need: financial backing to build expensive facilities and research."

While the merger with the UM system is still in the legislature, David Russel, director of University Relations for the UM system, said biopharming makes perfect

sense. "We've been talking about the potential to provide resources appropriate for the faculty here and to serve the people of Northwest Missouri through research discoveries and this is an absolute perfect example of that," Russel said.

Overall, Booth said there is still a long road to hoe to bring biopharming to Northwest.

"I think we have a lot of homework and a lot of research to do to move forward as to what is the right pathway," Booth said.

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ON THE WINNING SIDE

Northwest sweeps rival Griffons on Senior Night

BY JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Erica Hatterman is congratulated by Katie Scherer after the Bearcats get the 67-66 overtime victory on Wednesday.

PHOTO BY COLE YOUNG/
SPORTS EDITOR

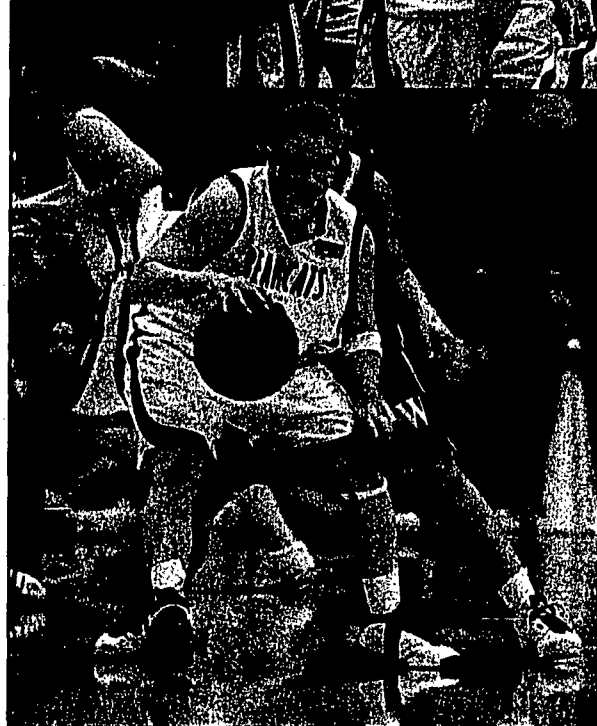


PHOTO BY BILL KNUST/ SENIOR REPORTER

Jane Chalmers corrals a loose ball on Wednesday night. Chalmers would make the game winning free throws in overtime.

PHOTO BY COLE YOUNG/ SPORTS EDITOR

Kelvin Parker goes in for an easy layup in Wednesday's win. Parker scored 16 points in the 90-67 win.

Yankees/Red Sox, Chiefs/Raiders, Missouri/Kansas, Missouri Western/Northwest.

Yeah, so maybe the last rivalry isn't as well-known, but it's just as big to fans in Northwest Missouri.

"It's the biggest rivalry in the MIAA," Missouri Western senior Luke Lewis said.

The two schools are only separated by 45 miles of highway and the most common reason that most give for the rivalry is that the schools are so close.

"They always draw a big crowd," Northwest sophomore Haywood Jackson said. "People always show up; everyone goes (to the games) for the rivalry."

No matter how they perform during the season, both teams' fans always seem to show up for the games, especially in football and basketball.

"It doesn't matter if Missouri Western is 0-10 and Northwest is 11-0, it will be the best game of the year," Missouri Western senior Grant James said.

Wednesday night was no exception as Bearcat Arena was sold out.

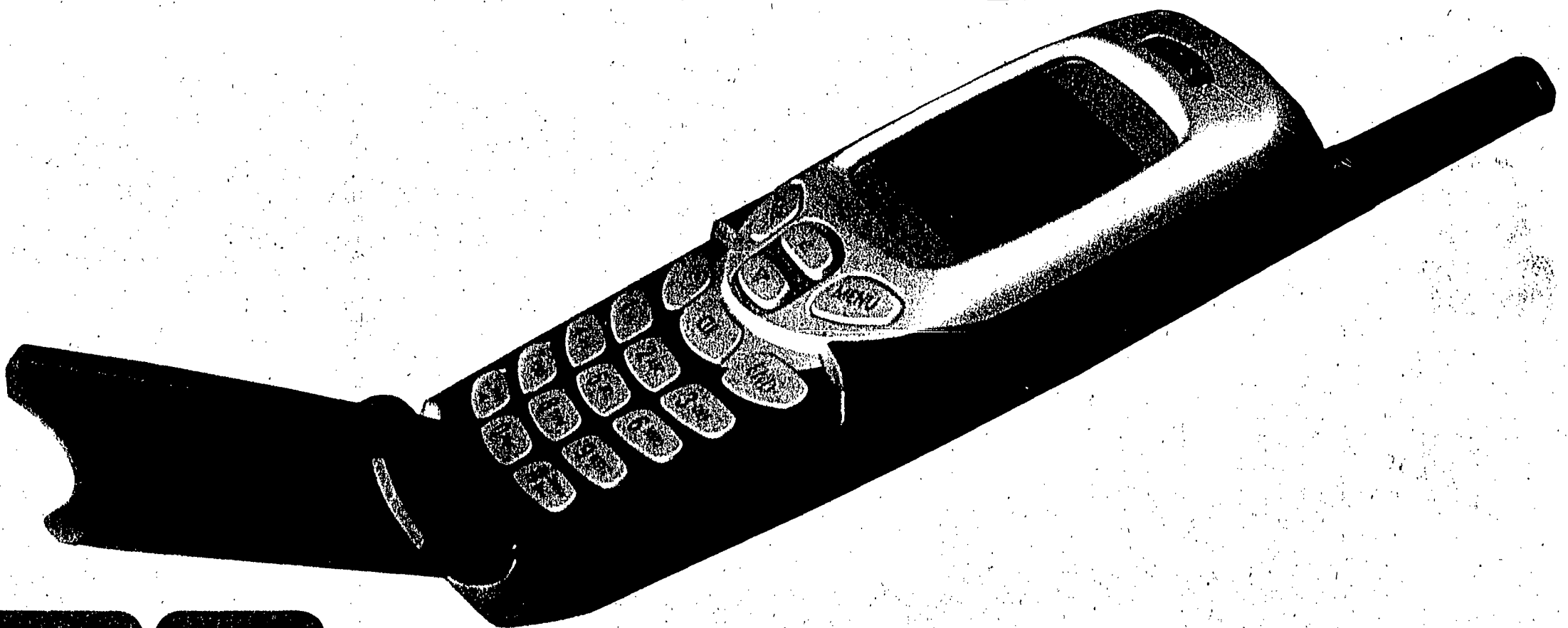
The fans of each school might have had different views about the opposing school, but they do respect what the other has to offer.

"They have the bragging rights right now," Lewis said. "Until we win the conference outright (in football), we will just be looking at those two national football championships."

Junior Travis Gardner drives to the basket against Missouri Western. The Bearcats completed a regular-season sweep of Western.

PHOTO BY COLE YOUNG/
SPORTS EDITOR

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NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

KANSAS CITY
HERE WE COME

Next week Bearcat fans can look forward to a special sports section devoted entirely to the MIAA Tournament.

Look for in-depth breakdowns of each team as well as a deeper look into the Northwest Basketball squad.

EARLY MARCH
MADNESS

March Madness gets an early start when the high school teams start district play next week.

The 'Hounds girls earned a first seed and a bye in the first round of the tournament.

They will take on the winner of Trenton and South Harrison at 6 p.m. on Wednesday.

The boys team also received a No. 1 seed but will play a first round game. The 'Hounds take on Tarkio Academy on Tuesday night at 6 p.m.

All games in the District 16 tournament take place at Plattsburg High School.

THIS WEEKEND

Northwest Men
at
Missouri-Rolla

Where: Legget and Platt Athletic Center, Joplin
When: 3:30 p.m. Saturday following women's game.

Last time: The Bearcats were tied with the Miners at halftime before scoring 43 second-half points to take an easy 73-60 win. Kelvin Parker scored 22 for the Bearcats who at that time improved to 11-0.



Parker

Why does it matter? Northwest can lock up a second place finish in the MIAA if they win out the rest of the season. At this point though, second and third seed don't matter much.

Northwest Women
at
Missouri-Rolla

Where: Legget & Platt Athletic Center, Joplin
When: 1:30 p.m., Saturday

Last time: The Bearcats used a double-double from Sarah Vollertsen to beat the Lady Miners 64-47. The Bearcats scored 31 points off the bench compared to Rolla's 14. Northwest forced the Miners into 27 turnovers to run the Bearcats record to 9-2 overall.



Vollertsen

Why does it matter? If the Bearcats lose this one then they will have to take a hard look at themselves in the mirror before heading in the MIAA tournament next week. Rolla's women's basketball program rivals their football program in lack of prestige.

Beating the Bearcats, would make the Lady Miners season.

SPOOFHOUND
SUMMARIES

THIS WEEK

Maryville Boys 47 vs.

Cameron 53

- Josh Wilmes scored 15 points in the loss.

Maryville Girls 62 vs.

Cameron 48

- Cindy Austin drops in 20 to lead Maryville to win.



PHOTO BY MIKE DYE/ CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Pittsburg State's Jermaine Carpenter and Northwest's Gabriel Helms have formed a friendship since they have started competing against each other in indoor track and football. The duo faces off this weekend at the MIAA Indoor Track Championships in Joplin in the 60m dash.

The MIAA's top sprinters turn rivalry in track and football into friendship

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Pittsburg State and Northwest have always been rivals, especially in football. Ironically, out of all that competitiveness and rivalry, a friendship has evolved.

Junior Gabriel Helms is a cornerback for the Bearcats and junior Jermaine Carpenter is a wide receiver for the Gorillas. The two not only match up against each other, but they also find themselves competing on the track in the 60- and 200-meter dashes.

Helms and Carpenter met a year ago. Due to what Helms had heard from his teammates and the perception he had of Carpenter, he wasn't too sure about him.

"I was like, who is this little cat trying to rip on me," Helms said. "He was trying to give me a run for my money."

But soon, Helms got to know Carpenter better and started hanging out with him more.

"It was kind of negative at first, but after we met each other and we talked, we found out that we are a lot alike," Helms said.

Carpenter had a different perception of

Helms.

"He came off as a cool person from the jump," he said. "I'm a down to earth person and he was a down to earth person and we just clicked. That's how we became friends, we've just grown since then."

The two usually call each other each week. At last year's Outdoor National Track Meet in Edwardsville, Ill., Helms took Carpenter to St. Louis (Helms' hometown) and Helms has gone to Carpenter's home state of Texas numerous times. Northwest wide receiver Jamaica Rector and Pittsburg State wide receiver B.J. Butler also hang out with Carpenter and Helms.

They find they have a lot in common, including being competitive, having a good time and especially trash talking.

"There's times when we talk back and forth, but we know it's all in good fun," Helms said. "He's more laid back than I am. I'm quick to fire-off, I'm quick to come back with something fast. I'll initiate some trash-talk, (Please see 'Friendly Foes' page 2B)

THE BREAKDOWN

Gabriel Helms

- Junior

- 6' 190 lbs

- Top 60m

time: 6.78

seconds

- Top 200m time: 21.61

- Last year at the MIAA

Championships: 1st in the

60m and 200m dashes

Jermaine Carpenter

- Sophomore

- 5'7" 151 lbs.

- Top 60m

time: 6.80

seconds

- Top 200m time: 21.94 seconds

last weekend at the CMSU classic

- MIAA Indoor Track athlete of the week

MEC outright title gone
with 'Hounds home lossMaryville finishes in tie
with three others for
MEC championships

By ANTHONY STEINS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

This wasn't the way the Spoofhounds drew it up.

Playing in front of a packed gymnasium on Senior Night, the Maryville Boys basketball squad fell to the Cameron Dragons Tuesday night 53-47.

Even with the loss, the 'Hounds claimed part of their first Midland Empire Conference title since 1995. They will share the title with Cameron, Chillicothe and Platte County.

The 'Hounds started the

game off sluggish, hitting only three field goals in the first quarter and trailing 11-6 at the end of the first period.

"We've got to score, that is something all year we have needed to work on, we need to score," head coach Mike Kuwitsky said.

The second quarter they were able to take a bite out of the lead, keyed by two three-pointers by junior Josh Wilmes. They were finally able

to grab their first lead of the ball game when junior Syd Brisbane nailed a jumper with two seconds (Please see 'Hounds' page 3B)



Maryville
47
Cameron
53

Maryville earns two
medals at state tourney

By ANDY TIMKO
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Five Spoofhound wrestlers traveled to Columbia last week hunting for state championships. Two came back ranked in the top five in their weight class.

Senior Eric Wilmarth finished in fifth place in the 189 pound weight class and junior Skyler Vandiver finished second in the 145 pound weight class.

"Overall, we were pleased with the outcome," head coach Joe Drake said. "We know there are a couple matches we let get away from us, but overall our performance was very good."

Wilmarth pinned Brandon Stark of Carrollton in 4:09 to win his fifth place match.

Vandiver battled with Cabor

Long of Lafayette County and led going into the third period 2-0. In the third Vandiver opened by giving Long a point but then Long took advantage of a couple Vandiver mistakes.

"I let him loose because he started low, so I was up by one," Vandiver said. "I shot in and I had a single leg and I tried to take him down and he made an escape there so I was down by one."

After putting forth a strong fight, Vandiver succumbed to Long and finished second after being pinned 4:46 into the match.

"I made another mistake and he won," Vandiver said. "I'm happy with second, but I think I could have had that last round." (Please see 'Maryville' page 3B)

Svoboda headed to UCLA,
Tatum fills his vacancy

By NORTHWEST SPORTS
INFORMATION

Northwest Missouri State University has announced that offensive coordinator Jim Svoboda will be leaving the Bearcat program to take the position of Quarterbacks Coach at the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA).

"Obviously, this is a great opportunity for me and my career," Svoboda said. "To be able to coach the quarterback position at a highly-regarded school like UCLA is an unbelievable opportunity."

Svoboda has been the offensive coordinator at Northwest since 1994. "It has been an awesome 10 years," Svoboda said. "I just feel fortunate and humble to have been a part of the great success the football program has had here at Northwest."

Svoboda, who has turned down

other job offers during his time at Northwest, said he will miss Northwest and the area.

"I'm very appreciative of the Northwest and Maryville communities and the support we received," he said. "It doesn't get any better than Northwest and Maryville in terms of Division II."

Tjeerdsmas said he couldn't be happier for Svoboda. "Professionally, this is what he has been preparing himself for," Tjeerdsmas said. "Not only is he getting the opportunity to coach at the Division I level, but with a historically great program. Personally and professionally, I'm going to miss him a lot. Not only is he a great coach, but he's one of my best friends. We've had a real long-term relationship."

Svoboda will begin his duties at UCLA as soon as possible.

Men pull of regular season sweep of Western

Jesse Shaw leads 'Cats
with 17 points, four
score 10 or more

By BILL KNUST
SENIOR REPORTER

The Northwest men turned a potentially dangerous game against rival Missouri Western State College into a laughter for a 90-67 win Wednesday.

It was the first time in 12 years that the Bearcats had swept the regular season series from Western. Using tough defense to force 17 Griffon turnovers and running their offense to near perfection, the No. 11 ranked team in the country sent their seniors out as victors on Senior Night.

"It was a clinic on offense tonight," junior forward Jesse Shaw said.

Shaw was one of the main benefactors of the clinic, leading the team with 17 points. He was one of five Bearcats to finish in double figures.

Twelve of his 17 points came on layups on backscreens.

"There were a lot of good backscreens tonight," Shaw said. "If we set a backscreen and no one helps on me I get a layup. They weren't helping a lot on me today."

What was a 39-38 game with 18:58 to play in the second half, turned into a Bearcat rout. A 22-4 run midway through the half, put the game out of reach for Western.

"We put four or five real good possessions together where we scored, got to the free throw line and got a couple three-point plays out of it," men's head coach Steve Tappmeyer said.

Sophomore Austin Meyer's

free throw started the run and then five other 'Cats chipped in to finish off the Griffons.

Senior guard Kelvin Parker and junior guard Sky Wilson combined for 11 of the 22 points during the spurt. Wilson finished with 13 and Kanan Weir and Meyer both finished with 11 points.

It was the 22-4 run that helped Parker break out of a shooting funk and finish the game 6-for-15 from the field. He finished with 16 points overall, but began the game just 1-for-6 in the first half.

In his last four Wednesday night games, Parker has shot just 17-for-59 from the field. He quickly shrugged the thought that he was wearing down.

"On Saturday games it is easier to focus on basketball because it is all you have to do that day," Parker said. "I need to let the game come to me more on Wednesdays."

Regardless of beating Western in his last game at Bearcat Arena, the night was a special one for the senior.

"It had a special meaning tonight," Parker said. "I was fortunate enough to play all my games here and put together a decent career."

Hopefully I can keep it going." Decent is an understatement when it comes to Parker's career. He has played in every game (120) since his freshman year. He is second all-time in assists for a career, and second all-time for assists in a season. He also ranks fifth all-time in career scoring. Not Bad.

Women beat Western in overtime,
Chalmers hits free throws to win

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior Jane Chalmers finally put to use something the Bearcats work on every day in practice: free throws.

With five seconds remaining in overtime, Chalmers headed to the line with the Bearcats trailing 66-65.

The Australian native hit both free throws, giving Northwest a 67-66 win over rival Missouri Western.

"I had missed the back end of my other two free throws,"

Chalmers said. "I just thought to myself, 'You can't screw this up a third time.'"

The opportunity for the Bearcats to go for the win came when Missouri Western guard Carly Lee missed both of her free throws with 20 seconds left in overtime.

"We had a set play we were running whether she made the shots or not," head coach Gene Steinmeyer said. "If she had made the free throws, we would have looked for an outside shot rather than Jane cutting to the basket."

According to Steinmeyer, this was the first time all season that they successfully ran the play to Chalmers.

"I thought to myself, 'If she mishandles this ball I'm going to kill her,'" Steinmeyer joked.

Instead, Chalmers was fouled by Western's Eldra Paixao, giving the Bearcats the opportunity for the win.

"Jane is clutch," Steinmeyer said. "There isn't anyone else I would have wanted to take the shot."

To add to the memories for (Please see 'Women' page 2B)



PHOTO BY COLE YOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR
Members of the Northwest women's basketball teams anxiously await Jane Chalmers' second shot with 5 seconds remaining in overtime. Chalmers hit both of the shots to give the Bearcats a 67-66 win over the Griffons.

Bearcats win fifth straight, prepare for trip to Georgia

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

If the Northwest baseball team is off to its usual slow start, then the College World Series is definitely not out of the picture.

After losing their season opener, the Bearcats have rattled off five straight wins, giving them a 5-1 record heading to the Armstrong Atlantic Invitational.

The trip to Georgia, usually a time that the team begins to get things figured out, could provide Northwest an opportunity to take their game to another level.

"We usually go to Georgia and get things figured out about mid-week," head coach Darin Loe said. "It's nice to have five wins and have things figured out already."

One of the main things Northwest had to figure out was who would play in their middle infield.

Originally the Bearcats expected Michael French and Pat Whitt to see considerable time at shortstop, but injuries have sidelined both of them.

Instead, transfer Cameron Dodd has come through for them, leading the squad in putouts with 32 in addition to having a perfect fielding percentage.

"Our big question mark has been our shortstop," Loe said. "Cameron Dodd came out this weekend and played up to our expectations for him."

Northwest came away with a sweep of the Henderson State Reddies, averaging nine runs per game in the wins.

Loe is confident that if several things had not gone their way, they wouldn't have a 5-1 record.

"I don't know if I'm really sur-

prised," he said. "We feel fortunate because there are a few of those things that if we don't make a key hit or get a key out, things could be the other way around. We talked about how if we didn't start well we could be 0-13."

In the opener Northwest fell behind 4-1 before unloading eight runs in the fourth inning. Both teams would tack on another run before it was over, giving the Bearcats a 10-5 win.



Northwest
Baseball

Jeremy Teter earned the win for Northwest, his first of the season.

Third basemen Jon White also hit a home run.

In the second game of the series the Bearcats never led the Reddies in the game, jumping out to an early 3-0 lead.

This time the fifth inning was their big inning, scoring seven runs to the Reddies three.

Marcus West, Kyle Gallagher and Brad Schwarz all homered for Northwest. Jeremy Tappes got the win for the Bearcats.

In game three pitcher David Dugan went for seven innings, allowing only three hits.

Van Gilmore came in for the last two innings and allowed just one more hit.

Gallagher again led the offense knocking in two runs as well as scoring one himself in their 4-0 win.

The No. 24 Bearcats face off against No. 2 Armstrong Atlantic this week, a game Loe says can be used as a good measuring stick.

"The two teams we have played have been good opponents but not to that level," Loe said. "They are going to have a jumpstart on us. If we put some games together there is no reason we can't play with those people."

CONTINUED From 1B

Friendly Foes: Helms' and Carpenter build friendship from rivalry in football and track

whereas he is more or less the type that will sit back and chill. Then if you talk to him he'll retaliate."

Carpenter agrees that Helms talks smack more than he does.

"I'm just more of a laid-back person, that's just my personality," Carpenter said. "It's all in good fun. We just do it to have fun, we have fun together."

They have never actually played football against each other. At last November's game, Carpenter was in the game for just one play because of an ankle injury. It just happened to be that on that one play, Helms was sitting out. However, the two have already started talking about next year's game.



Helms



Carpenter

"He already knows that I think we are going to whip them," Helms said.

Despite the bragging, both guys think the teams will have good years and put up a good fight.

"That's the ultimate goal for me—to go out and score against him so I can have a little bragging rights," Carpenter said.

Helms has never been beaten by Carpenter on the track. Helms injured his foot last week and did not compete in the CMSU Classic. Carpenter won the 60-meter

dash this past week with a time of 6.80. He was named the MIAA Indoor Track Athlete of the Week for his performance. Helms will run this week at the conference championships and says that he is not worried about anyone but himself.

"If I come with my A game, I'm going to win my race," Helms said. "I always expect him to give me a run for my money, it's just the respect I've got for him. If he doesn't, then I wonder what is wrong with him."

Carpenter said he still has that opportunity to beat Helms in a race.

"I'm putting a little pressure on myself to go out and try to beat him. Of course he does the same thing about me," he said. "If I do win, I want to make it memorable. To beat him (this week) would be a great honor because he is running real well this season."

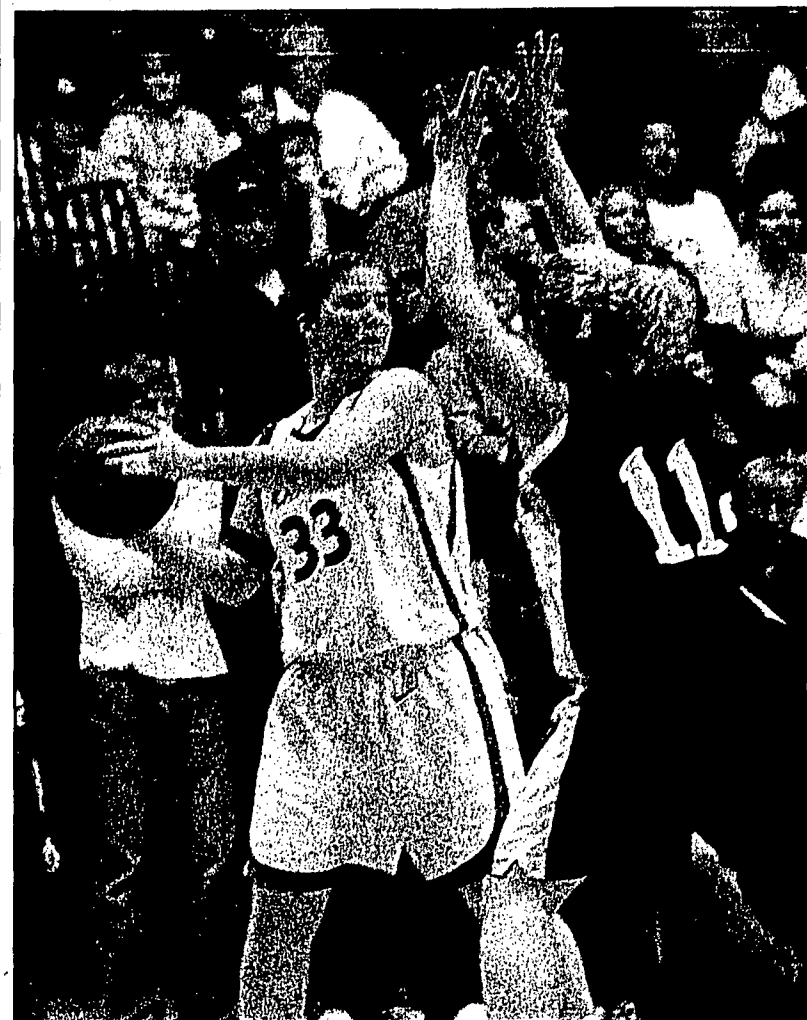
Overall, the two say that they have developed a friendship that will last a lifetime.

"He's a good guy, I don't have anything against him," Helms said. "I've got a lot of respect for the guy; he's cool, he's laid-back. He doesn't have the typical Pitt State mentality that you would think, because a lot of those guys down there talk trash. They're good for bad mouthing you and stuff like that and he's not like that."

Carpenter is also glad the two got to know each other better.

"I was new to the system, I didn't really know too many people besides the people that were on my team," he said. "I'm more of an outgoing person; I like to get to know more people outside of my own environment. I'm glad he took the initiative (to meet me) because I've really gained a real great friend."

Jerome Boettcher can be contacted at 562-1224 or jboettcher@missourianonline.com



Senior Katie Scherer looks for an opponent in Wednesday's 67-66 win over Missouri Western. Scherer finished the game with a team-high 13 rebounds.

CONTINUED From 1B

Women pick up win over Missouri Western; regular season finale this weekend in Rolla

Chalmers, game-winning free throws came on Senior Night in addition to playing against Western.

"When we play against Missouri Western, it's a big game," Chalmers said. "We had eight seniors playing on Senior Night, but everyone down to the freshmen realized tonight how intense this rivalry is."

The Bearcats had strong Senior Night performances from seniors Sarah Vollertsen, Katie Scherer and Erica Hatterman.

Vollertsen, who set the Northwest single-season shot block record with 43, finished the game with five blocks.

She also had 15 points and 13 rebounds. Scherer grabbed 13 boards for the

Bearcats.

Hatterman led the Bearcats' in scoring with 17 points. Seven of the points came in just over a minute late in the second half to complete the Bearcat's comeback.

Northwest trailed by as many as 12 points before taking a 55-53 lead on a Hatterman free throw. It was the first time the Bearcats had led since the game was 12-10 in the first half.

"The comeback says a lot about our team," Steinmeyer said. "I know what it feels like to be on the other end though. We were in the same position as Western last weekend against Southern. Every-

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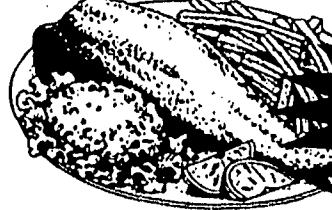
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**Spotlight
Player**

...though not an athlete, head men's basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer earned his 300th victory over the weekend against Missouri Southern.



Steve Tappmeyer



The New
Direction

CONTINUED from 1B

Wrestlers perform well in Columbia, Vandiver places second

Vandiver accredits this year's success to his family, the coaching staff, his teammates, hard work and God.

"My family was there to support me and my coaches and teammates talked to me and gave advice," Vandiver said. "I had to concentrate on every match and I'd always say prayers before I went out and wrestled, because there was a time that I didn't think I would even wrestle this year."

Not only were his teammates supportive during the season, but they also helped Vandiver on the way to his second place finish.

"They were really supportive," Vandiver said. "They gave me advice and told me what they thought I did wrong during the match."

Cody Gillenwater, Joseph Drake and Jon Reed also competed in the state tournament, but did not qualify for the medal rounds.

This year marked the 30th year that Joe Drake has coached the 'Hounds. Every season under Drake's guidance Maryville has sent wrestlers to state competitions.

"Anytime we get them down there, the boys wrestle very well and we felt we were well-represented at the state

tournament," Drake said.

With the season now at its end, the coaching staff can only reflect on the memories of this year and prepare for the season to come.

"We lost a couple duals we feel we shouldn't have lost and I think maybe that surprised us more than anything," Drake said.

Drake will not speculate the outcome of next year's season but Vandiver has already set a personal goal.

"I hope I do just as well next year," he said. "Anything can happen."

'Hounds roll past Dragons; Austin, Dawson combine for 37

By JEREMY SCHWENK
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Tuesday night's game gave the 'Hounds more confidence going into the postseason.

Led by seniors Cindy Austin and Kelly Dawson, the 'Hounds beat the Cameron Dragons 62-48, combining for 37 points between the two.

The game was closer than the final score with a tight halftime score of 21-20 with the 'Hounds on top.

The 'Hounds then distanced themselves with a 20-point third quarter compared to Cameron's six points.

Austin and Dawson contributed 14

of the 'Hounds 20 points in the third quarter. Austin ended with 20 points and Dawson trailed right behind with 17.

Cameron had a miraculous fourth quarter with 22 points, only to have it countered by the 'Hounds' 21.

The win gives the 'Hounds a 14-11 regular season record with a 3-4 record in the conference.

The Spoofhounds also received sweet revenge last Thursday night at home against the Savannah Savages.

Not only was it Senior Night, but it had been three weeks since the 'Hounds lost to the Savages by 29 points.

The 'Hounds seemed to have stolen the game with a 15-4 run in the second quarter, only to see the Savages complement the run to take the lead 28-27 with 6:02 left in the third quarter.

The 'Hounds were led by seniors Cindy Austin and Abby Walter with 10 points each.

Walter then hit 4-of-5 from the line in the fourth quarter to give the 'Hounds redemption with a 56-52 win.

The game marked head coach Randy Cook's first win against Savannah as well as the 'Hounds' last regular season home game.



Spoofohounds junior Syd Brisbane drives by a Cameron defender during Maryville's 53-47 loss to the Dragons. Brisbane scored nine points. The 'Hounds will have to recover quickly as they start district play Tuesday night in Plattsburg against Tarkio Academy.

CONTINUED from 1B

'Hounds drop opportunity for outright MEC championship

left to give the 'Hounds a 21-20 lead heading into intermission.

The third quarter started off with the 'Hounds extending their lead to 29-24 when Brisbane found Wilmes under the basket. Wilmes made the layup and was fouled by Cameron sophomore Eric Anderson, his fourth foul of the night. Anderson and his 14 points were sent to the bench.

That was the biggest lead the 'Hounds would see as Cameron embarked on an 8-0 run to regain the lead 32-29, led by two three-point field goals by sophomore Drew Newhart. The Dragons ended the quarter by draining another trey with five seconds left to give them a 35-30 advantage.

The first nine points of the

fourth quarter belonged to Cameron as they built a 42-30 advantage with six minutes left on the clock. Cameron's lead would not be cut to single digits until 42 seconds remained in the game.

The 'Hounds were led by Wilmes' 15 points, while Brisbane and senior Nate Morley chipped in with nine points each. Three Cameron players finished in double figures, led by Anderson's game-high 16 points.

"I think we have to start now and correct our mistakes and go into districts ready to go to war and focused," Kuwitzky said.

The 'Hounds will compete next at Plattsburg Tuesday when they face Tarkio Academy in the first round of district play. As the No. 1 seed, the

'Hounds could await a showdown in the championship against Cameron, who enters in as No. 2.

"I look forward to a showdown, to show them that we can play, and not as bad as we played tonight," Wilmes said.

Quarter-by-quarter scoring

	Cameron	Maryville
1st	11	6
2nd	9	15
3rd	15	9
4th	18	17
Total	53	47

Leading Scorers:
Maryville—Josh Wilmes (15)
Cameron—Eric Anderson (16)

Up Next: Maryville vs. Tarkio 6 p.m.
Cameron vs. Trenton 7:30 p.m.
Both district games are on Tuesday, March 2 at Plattsburg.

FAN PLAN	TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Northwest men's basketball			Missouri-Rolla 3:30 p.m.				
Northwest women's basketball			Missouri-Rolla 1:30 p.m.				
Northwest baseball				Queens (Savannah, Ga.) 10 a.m.	Armstrong Atlantic 2 p.m.	Georgia State 2 p.m.	Armstrong Atlantic 2 p.m.
Northwest softball		Evangel Tournament (Springfield)	Evangel Tournament (Springfield)			Lincoln University 2:30 p.m.	
Maryville boys' basketball						Districts Tarkio 6 p.m.	
Maryville girls' basketball							Districts (Plattsburg) Second Round

■ GAME TO WATCH: Both high school basketball teams travel to Plattsburg for the start of district play. Both teams have a good shot at winning their district. The Bishop LeBlond girls' team should be Maryville's toughest opponent if they meet in the district finals.

■ Home games

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One Stroller strolls straight out of Maryville and in strolls, well, me. And what a remarkable tradition I get to carry on, strolling around campus and Maryville and writing my views about people and events. Ah, the opportunity to exercise my freedom of press!

Freedom of expression has recently become a major issue on this campus (and in this nation, for that matter). As we all know, the First Amendment to our Constitution guarantees all Americans this fundamental and essential right to think and say whatever they wish—barring instances of slander and libel of course (Ann Coulter was way off-base on this one, Joe McCarthy was demented. End of story).

Last semester, Amnesty International exercised this basic liberty through peaceful demonstration by setting up a replica of the Israeli/Palestinian apartheid wall being built in the Middle East. Nobody had the right to encroach upon this freedom by tearing that wall down, no matter how ridiculous anyone thought it looked. And not only that, this incident took place overnight when nobody was around to see it. Whoever tore that wall down did not want to be seen. How cowardly is that?

Now, could Amnesty have handled



THE STROLLER

the situation in a more mature fashion? I think so. But that doesn't mean they were wrong. Since the incident, letters either defending or opposing Amnesty International have poured into *The Missourian*, many of them addressing not just Amnesty, but more in particular, this First Amendment right.

How touchy are we when we're demanding that professors put disclaimers on letters to the editor?

While we as Americans have the right to express ourselves, we can't just lash out with our emotions, because nobody will take us seriously if all we do is whine. Furthermore, if you're going to say or do something, you'd better have enough guts to show your face. No sneaking around in the middle of the night either. That's ridiculous. Not only is it spineless, but it also shows that

your argument has no substance to it. If you can't support what you're saying, then shut your mouth and don't say it in the first place.

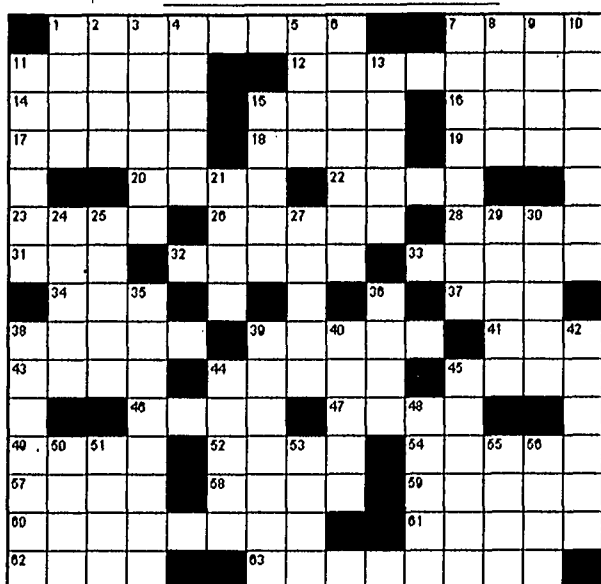
The nice thing about Amnesty International is that the organization *does* support its positions. Not only that, they have the guts to express their opinions and push people's buttons. That's the point behind the First Amendment: To force us to consider opinions different from our own and maybe even rethink our own ideas.

The Constitution also ensures our freedom to disagree. It would be darn near impossible to get everybody to agree on a single issue (I mean, come on, we can't even agree on whether or not killing other human beings is OK). But the freedom to disagree does not mean we can stifle others' freedom of expression. There should be no need for disclaimers in the press because it is a medium where freedom of opinion is implied.

As the new Stroller, I want to make something clear right off the bat: I'm going to push buttons. And if you don't like it, then maybe you're the one who needs to take a stroll.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of *The Northwest Missourian*.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across
1. Specters
7. Prickly seed vessel
11. Inhabitant of Saudi Arabia
12. Narrow-necked jars
14. Tiger/lion cross
15. Blue-gray
16. Devices for fishing
17. Enhance
18. Tunes
19. Clasp for a door
20. Watcher
22. Commotion
23. Former communist country
26. Hebrew prophet

28. Pole
31. And so on
32. Continue without interruption
33. Flinch
34. Chief sports official
37. Self-esteem
38. Cover girl
39. Apple juice
41. Period of history
43. South American armadillo
44. British politician
45. Run away
46. Scottish hillside
47. Commander
49. Rescue
52. Money paid for work
54. Lines extending from the center of a circle
57. Male name
58. Cart for heavy loads
59. Florida city
60. Gigantic statue
61. Umbilicus
62. Slanting
63. Lewd conversations by telephone
1. Discharged a debt
2. Male given name
3. Lover

4. Simpleton
5. Republic in W Africa
6. Improve in appearance
7. Geniality
8. Carbamide
9. Exclamation of disappointment
10. Reprieve
11. Carved image
13. Mexican money
15. Member of the nobility
21. Flightless birds
24. Divest
25. Operatic vocal solo
27. Capital of Bulgaria
29. Celestial being
30. Tally
35. Flounce
36. Microbe
38. Units of astronomical length
39. Resolve
40. Chancy
42. Antenna
44. Trollops
45. Disorderly disturbance
48. Honeybee
50. Berserk
51. Objectionable
53. Deep wound
55. Shortened male name
56. Holly

See answers below

on the edge

Computer facts:

■ In May 2000 China toughened its regulations against computer viruses, mandating fines and up to five years imprisonment for people who spread the bugs.

■ The first electronic digital computer weighed 30 tons.

■ Thirty-two percent of computer data loss cases are due to human error.

■ The images on a computer screen are made up of more than 5,000 pixels, or dots, per square inch.

■ There are three sets of letters on the standard typewriter and computer keyboards which are in alphabetical order, reading left to right. They are f-g-h, j-k-l, and o-p.

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